



CHILDREN'S
ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH
NETWORK

ENERGY JUSTICE & EQUITY

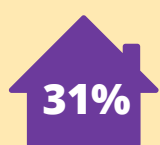
Energy equity aims to ensure that disadvantaged communities have **equal access** to clean energy and are not **disproportionately affected** by pollution.

Communities of color tend to pay a higher percentage of their income towards inequitable access to energy, while also being more likely to lack heat and AC and to be exposed to the harms of the industry (pollution).

ENERGY BURDEN

Low-income households pay an average of **10% of household income** on energy bills, compared to a national average of **2.9%**.

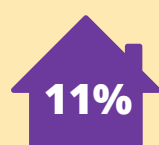
Low-income households often face an energy burden that is **three times higher** than other households.



of U.S. households reported **struggling to pay energy bills or to maintain adequate heating and cooling** in their homes.



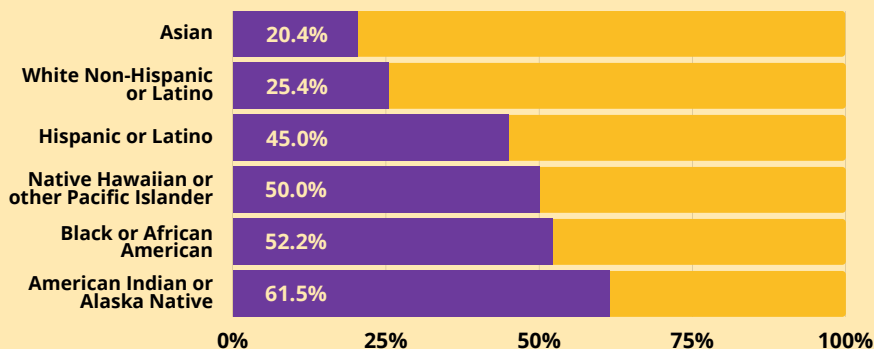
About **one in five** households reported **reducing or forgoing basic necessities like food and medicine** to pay an energy bill.



of households reported keeping their home at **unhealthy or unsafe temperatures** due to costs.

ENERGY INSECURITY

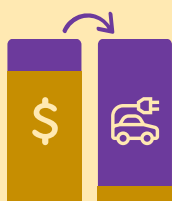
Shares of Households Experiencing Energy Insecurity by Race/Ethnicity, 2015



Areas with a high share of minority population were more than **four times as likely** to suffer a blackout than predominantly White areas.

POLLUTION

The consumption of predominantly wealthy, White individuals drives a **disproportionate amount** of greenhouse gas emissions and co-pollutants, yet people of color **disproportionately suffer from the impacts** of these emissions.



Since 2006, the **top 20% income earners** in the United States received **90% of electric vehicle income credits**.



Black individuals are **75% more likely** to live near toxic oil and gas facilities, specifically.



Approximately **13.4% of Black children suffer from asthma** as compared to only **7.3% of White children**.

Black individuals are **1.75 times as likely** than White people to live in “fence-line” communities (areas near commercial facilities that produce noise, odor, traffic, or emissions that directly affect the population).

Having access not only to renewable energy, *but even being connected to an electrical grid at all*, is still an issue for many people, particularly in rural areas and for tribal nations. Communities that do have access to electricity are increasingly facing power outages from disasters or even preemptive shutoffs to prevent wildfires.

Energy equity requires the fair and just distribution of benefits in the energy system through intentional design of systems, technology, procedures and policies.

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